

CONVERTIBLE LUGGAGE DEVICE

[0001] This application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Application Serial No. 09/839,900, ^{April 1} ~~now abandoned~~ filed ^{March 20, 2001} ~~March 20, 2001~~, the contents of which are incorporated by reference.

Background of the Invention

[0002] 1. Field of the Invention:

[0003] The present invention relates generally to convertible luggage devices and more particularly to luggage devices that can be alternatively pushed or pulled and which provide structure that is multi-functional.

[0004] Convenience is an important consideration in luggage choice. Families who travel with small children often bring strollers, car seats, diaper bags, carry-on bags and a host of other items. Those traveling without children also must contend with transporting a number of items.

[0005] Prior luggage devices have been developed with wheels so that the luggage can be rolled rather than continuously carried. Luggage including two or four wheels have previously been produced. While such luggage can conceivably be pushed, most devices are designed to be pulled behind the traveler.

[0006] Luggage having convertible aspects have also been developed. Such luggage includes pivoting structure and complimentary structures that can be used as a sitting stool or as a baby stroller. Conventional luggage devices with convertible aspects have also been configured to be pushed rather than pulled behind a traveler.

[0007] However, prior devices can lack sufficient convenience for an individual to make it a luggage choice. For example, a number of conventional luggage devices are not equipped with a stable wheel base. The devices easily tip over in response to a lateral force. Other luggage devices lack structure for easy conversion into a stroller or push cart. That is, the conventional devices require several steps to transform, fold or unfold the various structures of the device. Still other conventional luggage devices lack necessary safety features to make them a luggage choice.